

INTRODUCTION

Surrounded by 167 acres of landscaped grounds, won from the shortgrass, treeless prairie, Saskatchewan's Legislative Building is an outstanding example of what can be accomplished by the efforts of man in beautifying an unpromising natural site.

Spacious lawns lead down from the Building to the banks of Wascana Lake which was created by damming up the small stream known as Wascana Creek. Groves of trees, shrubs, and ornate flower beds have replaced the barren plain.

The people of Saskatchewan may well be proud of their Legislative Building.



*Looking
Down
the
Main
Stairway
to the
Main
Entrance*

THE BUILDING

The Legislative Building is a beautiful structure in Louis XVI style. Built of Manitoba stone from the Tyndall quarries, it is in the form of a cross, approximately 542 feet in length and 275 feet in width, with the tower and dome reaching a height of some 188 feet.

Thirty-four varieties of marble are found throughout the building, including Canadian specimens from the Missiquoi and other quarries in Quebec, and imported stone from Italy, Ireland, Sweden and other countries.



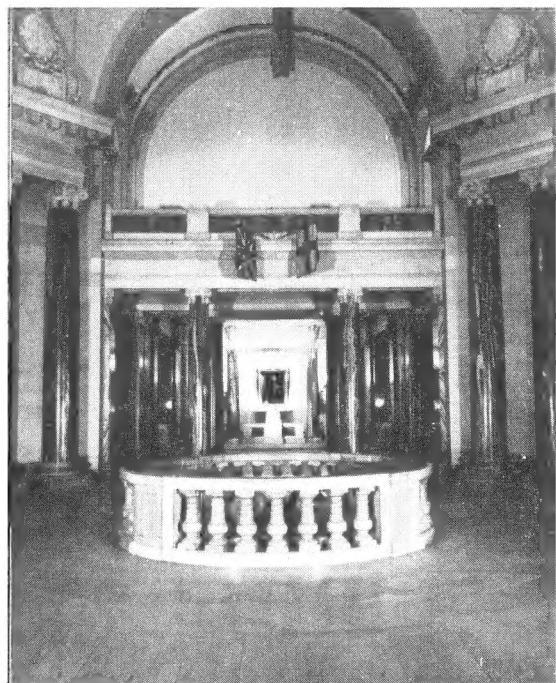
Entrance Hall, Main Entrance



Philipsburg
Marble
Columns
in the
Rotunda

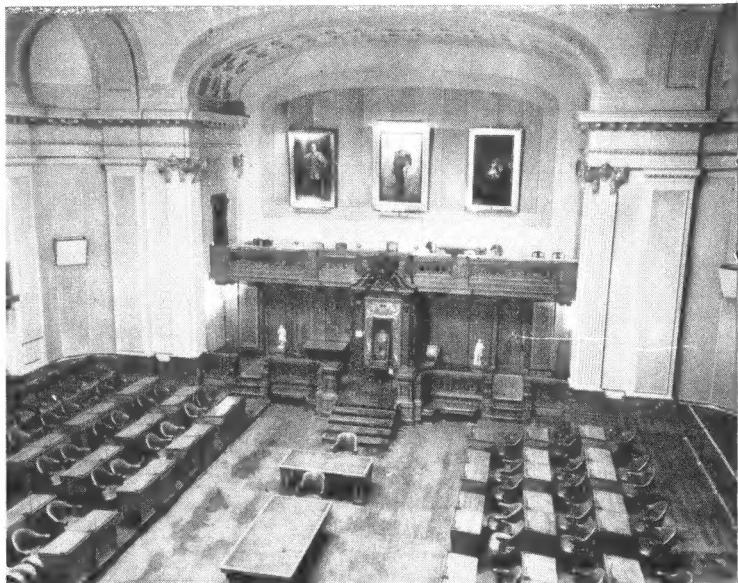
The approximate cost of the building was \$3,000,000 and E. and W. S. Maxwell of Montreal were the architects. The construction was carried out, under contract, by Peter Lyall and Sons of Montreal.

Work was commenced on August 31, 1908, and the corner stone was laid on October 4, 1909, by his Excellency, Earl Grey, then Governor General of Canada. The Building was officially opened on October 12, 1912, by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Connaught. The four floors contain some 265 rooms and house most of the provincial government offices.



*The Well
in the centre
of the Rotunda
is identical
to Napoleon's
Tomb in
Paris.*

*The
Legislative
Chamber
is
Panelled
in finely
Carved
Oak.*



LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER

In the south wing of the first floor of the Building, directly opposite the main stairway, is the Legislative Assembly Chamber. This room has no windows—light is diffused into it by means of a prismatic arrangement in the double glass skylight, and it is ventilated and heated by concealed vents.

The entire chamber and the galleries are panelled in finely carved oak, with bases of Connemara marble. Panels of linen applied to the walls improve the acoustics of the room.

Prominently placed in the chamber are figurines representing Sir John A. MacDonald and Sir Louis Lafontaine, and a statue of Lord Nelson containing copper taken from his famous ship the "Victory". A fine tapestry hangs behind the Speaker's chair, and above the press gallery hang portraits of King Edward VII, Queen Victoria and King George V.

*The
Premier's
Office*



*Executive Council Chamber — A Replica of a
Vatican Room*



EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Situated immediately over the main entrance of the Building are the Lieutenant Governor's reception room, the Executive Council Chamber, and the Premier's office and private room. All these rooms are exceptionally well appointed.

The Executive Council Chamber, where cabinet meetings are held, is a replica of a room in the Vatican at Rome. The walls are covered with silk tapestry, woven to represent the present condition of Roman tapestry 700 years old.

The Lieutenant Governor's room is the only one in the building finished in mahogany. Opening off it is a little French balcony. All three rooms have old-fashioned fireplaces containing Alps Green marble from Switzerland and equipped with specially-made brass fittings.



The Reading Room, Legislative Library.

Librarians
and
45,000
Books.



LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY

On the first floor, in the east wing and facing the city, is the Legislative Library and Members' Reading Room

The Library contains many things of interest, including photographic groups of Legislatures (from that of the North West Territories Legislative Council of 1884 to the present Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan); the table around which the Fathers of Confederation sat during the Conference at Quebec in 1864; "Old Masters" loaned by the late Lieutenant Governor G. W. Brown; ancient maps; and some 45,000 books.

The first session of the Saskatchewan Legislature was held in the Library as the Assembly Chamber had not been completed.



*Arched
Balcony
Overlooking
the
Rotunda.*

*The Main
Stairway
Leading
to the
Rotunda.*



ARCHITECTURE

Throughout the Building, the French style of architecture predominates. On the pediment over the main entrance is a noteworthy allegorical carving representing "Progress". This beautiful work was executed by the Broonsgrove Guild of England through their Montreal Agency at a cost of \$15,000.

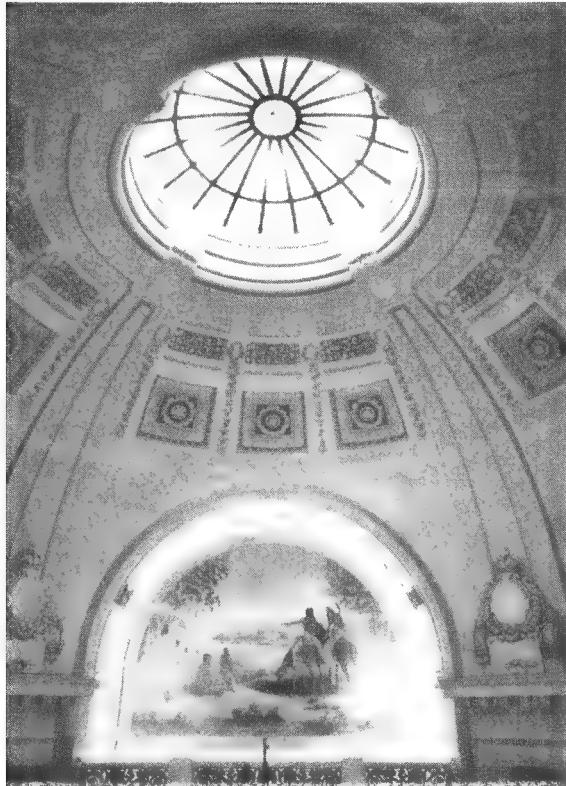
From the main entrance and the well-proportioned entrance hall an impressive stairway leads up to the rotunda built from white-veined Philipsburg marble. The beautifully decorated dome ceiling is supported by green marble pillars from the Island of Cyprus. The marble design encircling the well in the centre of the rotunda is identical with that which surrounds the Tomb of Napoleon in Paris.

The main east-west corridors on this and the other floors are among the longest straight corridors in the world built at one time.

Arches, artistic ceiling designs, fine carvings, unique lighting arrangements, and many portraits catch the eye of the visitor as he proceeds through the Building.

Worthy of mention are the portraits of high ranking government officials of the past which are hung on the rotunda walls, and the Indian

paintings which are found in the east corridor on the first floor. A spiral staircase inside the concrete dome leads to the tower, at the very top of the building.



*The Dome
over the
Rotunda.*

HIGHLIGHTS IN SASKATCHEWAN HISTORY

- 1692 — The first white man, Henry Kellsey, a Hudson's Bay Company employee, entered Saskatchewan on an exploratory trip.
- 1749 — Pierre de la Verendrye reached the forks of the Saskatchewan River.
- 1774 — Cumberland House, the first permanent settlement, was established.
- 1870 — The North West Territories were given institutions of Crown Colony Government.
- 1876 — The North West Territories were given a government entirely distinct from that of Manitoba.
- 1873 — The Royal North West Mounted Police were formed.
- 1885 — The last spike was driven in the C.P.R. transcontinental line.
- 1885 — The second Riel Rebellion took place.
- 1888 — The Territories achieved representative institutions.
- 1905 — Saskatchewan was granted provincial status.
- 1930 — Natural Resources were acquired and full provincial maturity was attained.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS OF SASKATCHEWAN

Hon. A. E. Forget:	-	-	-	1905 - 1910
Hon. George E. Brown:	-	-	-	1910 - 1915
Sir Richard Lake:	-	-	-	1915 - 1921
Hon. H. W. Newlands:	-	-	-	1921 - 1931
Lt.-Col. H. E. Munroe:	-	-	-	1931 - 1936
Hon. A. P. McNab:	-	-	-	1936 - 1944
Hon. T. Miller:	-	-	-	1945 (March-June)
Hon. R. J. M. Parker:	-	-	-	1945 - 1947
Hon. J. M. Uhrich, Ph.C., M.D.:	-	-	-	1948 - Present

PREMIERS OF SASKATCHEWAN

Hon. W. Scott:	-	-	-	1905 - 1916
Hon. W. M. Martin:	-	-	-	1916 - 1922
Hon. C. A. Dunning:	-	-	-	1922 - 1926
Hon. J. G. Gardiner:	-	-	-	1926 - 1929
Hon. J. T. M. Anderson:	-	-	-	1929 - 1934
Hon. W. J. Patterson:	-	-	-	1935 - 1944
Hon. T. C. Douglas:	-	-	-	1944 - Present

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